

TRUTH

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The Interstate Commerce commission spent a day and a half in Salt Lake taking testimony in regard to the coal combine, the reprehensible way the combine obtained its coal lands from the government and how it compels the people of this city to pay \$5.25 a ton for coal when a fair and reasonable price would be \$3 or \$3.50 and how it throttles all competition. The examination was brief and very superficial. Nothing was elicited that has not been well known here for years, in fact a great many things which are of common knowledge in this connection were not touched upon at all. Salt Lake alone consumes half a million tons of coal annually and the combine is exacting from this community more than a million dollars a year above a fair and reasonable profit. These are all well known facts. Now that the commission has skimmed over the surface and officially obtained an inkling of the conditions what is going to be done about it? Will any measures be taken to afford relief? We doubt if anything which will be at all effective will be done. By the way, how was it that the Tribune, Herald, News, and Telegram agreed among themselves not to report the proceedings of the commission, agreed to give only a paragraph or two merely stating that the commission was here to investigate matters connected with coal lands and railroad rates? How was it that the Inter-Mountain Republican declined to be a party to the scheme thereby compelling the other papers to break up their agreement and give the public the news? How is it that no paper has yet mentioned the fact that J. C. Stubbs, general traffic manager of the Harriman lines, and Mr. Beck, chief legal

adviser of the Standard Oil company, came here incognito as it were, simultaneously with the commission, remaining here while the commission remained and went off to Denver when the commission left for Denver? The commission accomplished practically nothing and was gotten away as quickly as possible. That's why there was great rejoicing among the coal men and the railroad companies when the commission hiked off to Denver.

An editorial in the Inter-Mountain Republican of Wednesday in which the Mormon people were advised to get together in self-protection and vote the republican ticket to defeat the "American" party, caused considerable commotion. If the Mormons don't get together and vote some ticket to defeat the "Americans" they are even bigger fools than we have taken them to be. The "American" party is an anti-Mormon party pure and simple, conceived and organized for the sole and only purpose of wrecking the vengeance of ex-Senator Kearns on the Mormons because they refused to repeat the egregious blunder of again electing him to the United States senate. Every indignity imaginable has been heaped upon them, by Mr. Kearns, his press organs and his satellites. His press organs are following the example set in Idaho and advocating disfranchisement of the Mormons. The Tribune has slandered, vilified and abused them in every conceivable way, lied about them with persistence and malice sufficient to put Lucifer in the shade and the Mormons have taken it, haven't resented it although they had the power to do so. This may be the fruits of a Christian spirit, but it is bordering on the domain of a craven. If the Mormons don't get up, assert their rights and protect themselves they ought to be disfranchised.

The Tribune, its evening edition, the Telegram, and its weekly hanger on "don't like President Roosevelt very good." Colonel Daugherty expressed their sentiments when he attacked the president in the "American" convention. The Telegram and the weekly devote a large amount of space to show why Mr. Roosevelt should not be nominated in 1908. They are kicking against the pricks.

For several years Truth has advocated the abolition of the city council of fifteen members with innumerable hangers on and placing the civic government in the hands of not to exceed five commissioners whose sole business should be to administer the affairs of the city. These commissioners should be elected by the people and should be paid salaries large enough to secure honest and capable men. This would insure a much better and a much more economical city government. The Civic Improvement league, the Manufacturers and Merchants' association and other organizations are now advocating it strongly. A committee composed of O. H. Hewlett, M. H. Walker, W. H. King, George N. Lawrence and R. L. Pritchard has

been appointed to work out the details and present a bill to the next legislature providing for the change. It is a forward step and should be encouraged.

Under the caption: "A Recent Social Event in Nevada," Collier's Weekly says in the lettering under a picture of the prize ring: "The prize fight between Joe Gans and Battling Nelson for the lightweight championship of the world was fought in the boom mining town of Goldfield, Nevada, September 3. About two hundred women saw Gans win on a foul in the forty-second round. It was pre-eminent the social function of the season in Goldfield. Notice in the upper tier of benches to the right the little girls in their neat white frocks frocks enjoying the civilizing spectacle."

DEATH OF R. W. PITTMAN.

The death of R. W. Pittman was very sad. A young man, under 40 years, with intellect and training which would, had his life been spared, have raised him to a high station among his fellows; a man filled with the milk of human kindness and at the same time possessed of a keen insight of human nature; a discriminating business man, but generous and loveable at the same time. He had wonderful tact and the faculty of making friends. Pitt, as he was familiarly called, came to Salt Lake from Des Moines, Ia., as the local manager of the Western Newspaper Union, and made a decided success. Only a couple of months ago he accepted an offer to take full charge of the Everett Pulp & Paper Mills at Everett, Wash., and had barely entered upon his new duties when he was seized with the illness which proved fatal. To his wife and family the sincerest sympathy is extended by friends in Utah, as well as in Iowa.

BULLEN VS. HENDRICKSEN.

Editor Truth—"Mell," in the first paragraph of his article in your last issue, states that "Rex" is a freak of nature. If that is true, it is unavoidable. What nature has accomplished neither "Rex" nor "Mell" can undo.

I will, however, note a few very freakish streaks in "Mell's" journalistic accomplishments. In paragraph 1 "Mell" states he is a friend of Mr. Bullen, but by reading his venomous prevarications and slander of Mr. Bullen he certainly has some freakish streaks through his cranium. He, not being a natural freak, has acquired his freakishness by practice. In the second paragraph we find streak No. 2. He states the reason he writes is "his great desire that the public should know the facts." And in the same paragraph he states: "The public knows their respective worth." Now, isn't that consistent?

Then he goes on to tell us all about the great offices that Mr. Bullen has held. He states that in 1900, when Mr. Bullen was county chairman, he was well paid for his work. The fact of the matter, which can easily be proved, is that Mr. Bullen performed that duty without money and without price. He received no remuneration for his services, so, Mr. "Mell," you are charged with another freakish streak, No. 3. The charging of a political office held by Mr. Bullen, Sr., to Mr. Bullen, Jr., is streak No. 4. The statement that Mr. Bullen, Sr., had not declared his politics, is a malicious prevarication. His home at Richmond was the headquarters for

Republicans ever since we divided on party lines, so I will charge you up with streak No. 5.

The inference that Mr. Bullen is not wealthy and Mr. Hendricksen is a very wealthy man, I accept, but that Mr. Bullen is not a property holder and a taxpayer, both on personal property and real estate, I deny most emphatically. Mr. "Mell," go to the records and see for yourself. The reason Mr. Bullen was beaten in 1902 was because such men as "Mell," Hendricksen, Knowles and other pretended Republicans used their influence to defeat him.

As far as the U. of U. and A. C. of U. controversy is concerned, and Mr. Bullen's stand and interest in the same, read the minority report of the college committee and be convinced. I might be converted.

Now, Mr. "Mell," you will do well if you will eradicate your freakish streaks and confine yourself strictly to the truth. Don't spout about rings when you yourself are and have been trying to establish one for some time past. Times are past when a rich man can with impunity point the finger of scorn at a poor man and think that by doing so he can gain the sympathy of the public.

By the time this number of Truth reaches us, Mr. Hendricksen, Mr. Bullen or some other good man will have been nominated for state senator. So the Bullen-Hendricksen controversy is now at an end, so far as I am concerned. REX.

Logan, Sept. 27, 1906.

MR. HENDRICKSON IS FORGIVING.

Logan, Sept. 27.

Editor Truth.—Considerable foolish talk has been going on of late from here between one "Rex" in behalf of Mr. Bullen, and one "Mell" in defense of myself.

It seems to me that Mr. "Rex," whom I am told, can be found in a federal office, could spend his time to better advantage, than to support a friend by maligning a neighbor, and I am of the opinion "Mell" would have been wiser had he paid no attention to "Rex's" folly.

Have I been at all useful, it need not be heralded, and if I have been a failure the fewer who know it the better.

I sincerely hope Mr. "Rex," who so severely criticises me, has satisfied himself through life and been more use than I have been. He is not, however, a very courageous man or he would not shoot and then hide.

I am not in love with this method of supporting a friend politically, by maligning one whom he does not like so well. After the campaign is over and he has cooled down, I believe he will look upon his letters in Truth with disapproval.

Sincerely yours,
J. A. HENDRICKSON.

An Appreciative Listener.

An anecdote is told of Sir Henry Roscoe. During one of his scientific lectures he was pleased at the rapt and apparently intelligent attention of a woman in the audience. Afterward she expressed her appreciation, but added: "There is one thing, though, which is not quite clear. Is the celebration inside or outside the skull?"

Leander's Little Joke.

"Crossed in love once more," lamented the Hellespont as Leander clambered up the bank.

Sense Comes with Age.

What a blessing it is that so few women marry the fellows they were in love with at 16!